length at diakinesis (fig. 2B). Pairing appeared normal in all cells examined.

Division of Biological Sciences, Humboldt State College, Arcata.

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Notes and News

Saxifragia eschscholtzii *Sternb.*—Although not described as such in the more recent Alaskan floristic works (E. Hultén, *Flora of Alaska and Yukon*, 913, 1945; J. P. Anderson, *Flora of Alaska and adjacent parts of Canada*, 290, 1959; I. L. Wiggins and J. H. Thomas, *A flora of the Alaskan arctic slope*, 240, 1962), this species is dioecious. Plants of both sexes are present in a collection made at Point Hope, July 3, 1962 (*Maxcine Williams 191, 191A*, DS, OSC), from which the accompanying drawings were made (fig. 1). This type of sexual dimorphism is rare in *Saxifraga* and although it was discovered and illustrated long ago by Engler and Irmscher (*Das Pflanzenreich*, IV, 117(1): 164–165, 1916), it seems to be easily overlooked. The staminate flowers shrivel and become inconspicuous following anthesis, while the ripening pistillate ones retain their staminodia and might be thought to be perfect. According to field notes accompanying these collections the two types of flowers are quite distinct in form and color at anthesis. The staminate flowers are greenish-yellow, except for the red tips of the sepals and the vestigial styles; the sepals are sharply recurved. The pistillate flowers are principally red; their sepals are spreading or cupped upwards. In both sexes the small, narrow petals are yellow (not white, roseate, or hyaline, as suggested by Hultén, *loc. cit.*, or Wiggins and Thomas, *loc. cit.*).

At Point Hope, *S. eschscholtzii* grows near sea level, in gravel and thin turf on the fringes of the Eskimo settlement. This seems to be an unusual habitat for the species, as it contradicts specific statements that the plant is limited to mountainous regions (Hultén, *loc. cit.*; Wiggins and Thomas, *loc. cit.*; N. Polunin, *Circumpolar*

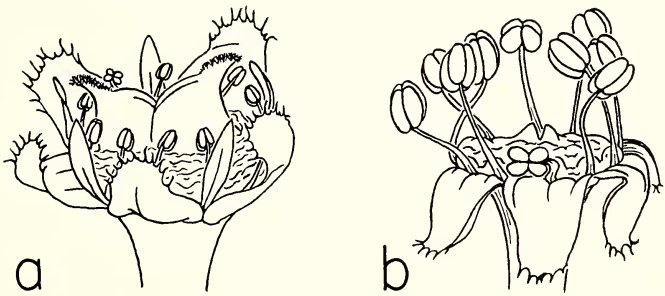

Fig. 1. Flowers of *Saxifraga eschscholtzii*, × 10: a, pistillate; b, staminate, with petals removed.

arctic flora, 260, 1959). A report by Porsild (*Rhodora* 41:141–183, 1939) lists the species among 88 which, in the Bering Sea region, are restricted to hills and mountains above 1000 feet elevation. Perhaps the explanation of the occurrence at Point Hope lies in the suggestion by Wiggins and Thomas (*loc. cit.*) that *S. eschscholtzii* is a calciphile. The prolonged human occupancy of a site on the coast may create edaphic conditions suitable for certain calciphilous species not adapted to the surrounding tundra.—Kenton L. Chambers, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Oregon State University, Corvallis.

The following publications are of interest:

Experimental Studies on Species Relationships in Ceanothus. By Malcolm A. Nobs. viii + 94 pp. Carnegie Institution of Washington Publication 623. Washington, D.C. 1963.

California Range Brushlands and Browse Plants. By Arthur W. Sampson and Beryl S. Jespersen. viii + 162 pp., illustrated wtih photographs, line drawings, and maps. University of California College of Agriculture Manual 33. 1963. $2.00.

A Flora of Wyoming. By C. L. Porter. Part 1, 39 pp., Part 2, 16 pp. Bulletins 402 and 404, Agricultural Experiment Station, University of Wyoming, Laramie. 1962, 1963.

101 Wildflowers of Acadia National Park. By Grant and Wenonah Sharpe. 40 pp., 102 line drawings. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 1963. $1.00. This booklet deals with 102 species of flowering plants which are to be found in Acadia National Park, Maine.

A Checklist of Woody Ornamental Plants of California. By Mildred E. Mathias and Elizabeth McClintock. 65 pp. University of California College of Agriculture Manual 32. 1963. $0.75. The 1957 addition to the Agricultural Code of California stated that ornamental plants offered for sale (with the exception of roses and annual and herbaceous perennial plants) had to be labeled with the botanical name. This checklist will make it easier for the members of the nursery trade to comply with the law and will be of considerable use to gardeners and professional botanists.

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